

I. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A method for printing a document comprising:

using a computer, performing the following steps:

analyzing a metadata in a plurality of document pages to determine a required printer type, wherein the required printer type comprises a specific printer, a color printer, and a black/white printer;

separating each of the plurality of document pages into a plurality of print jobs based on the required printer type for each document page, wherein all of the print jobs based on the specific printer are first allocated together, then all unallocated print jobs based on the color printer are separately allocated together, and then all remaining unallocated print jobs are allocated together and based on the black/white printer;

placing each of the plurality of document pages into an appropriate holding queue for an appropriate printer for each of the allocated print jobs;

selecting the appropriate printer for each of the plurality of print jobs; wherein the appropriate printer is determined using a print farm profile; and wherein the print farm profile includes data regarding a number, a size, and a type for each of a plurality of print jobs in a print queue for the appropriate printer, and a printer speed and an amount of paper in a printer bin for the appropriate printer; and

printing the plurality of print jobs on a plurality of appropriate printers;

~~wherein when the required printer type is a specific printer, compiling all pages from the plurality of print jobs requiring the specific printer into a single print job for the specific printer;~~

2. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

reassembling the plurality of printed print jobs to produce a finished document.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a specific printer holding queue; and

wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is the specific printer.

4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein the specific printer is a printer containing letterhead.

5. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein the specific printer is a photographic printer.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a color printer holding queue; and

wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a color printer.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a black/white printer holding queue; and

wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a black/white printer.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

comparing each print job to a printer page threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the number of document pages in the print job exceeds the printer page threshold, separating print job into a plurality of print jobs.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the selecting step further comprises:

calculating the time until the printers are available; and

sending the print job to the first available printer.

10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the selecting step further comprises:

calculating the time required for the print jobs to print; and

sending the print jobs to the printer with the lowest calculated time required to print the print job.

11. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the selecting step further comprises:

ranking the printers based on the time until the printers are available; and

assigning the print jobs to the printers based on the printer ranking.

12. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the selecting step further comprises:

ranking the printers based on the time required for the print jobs to print; and

assigning the print jobs to the printers based on the printer ranking.

13. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

printing a control page with each print job; and

wherein the control page contains printed instructions for reassembling the document.

14. to 44. (Canceled)